

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10-21, 23-31, 33 and 34 are currently pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7, 10, 12-13, 15-21, 23, 25-31, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0091798 to Joshi et al. (hereinafter “Joshi”). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for the following reasons.

The PTO provides in MPEP § 2131 that “[t]o anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim” With regard to independent claims 1, 16, and 26, Applicants submit that Joshi fails to teach every element of those claims.

In particular, Joshi fails to teach at least “wherein the transitory link is a symbolic link” as now recited in claim 1. The Examiner cited a portion of paragraph 0226 as teaching this limitation, which was previously recited in claim 15. The cited passage of Joshi is reproduced below in its entirety for ease of reference.

[0226] . . . In step 1832, the resource determines whether there are any header variables to consider. If there are no header variables, then in step 1834, the resource responds to the request. Responding to the request can include providing a web page, access to a software process or anything else appropriate for the particular resource. If, in step 1832, it is determined that there are header variables, then in step 1836 the resource searches for a particular variable name. In order to use header variables, the resource must be preprogrammed to know what header variables to expect and how to use them. . . .

The Examiner appears to have taken the position that Joshi’s “header variables” read on Applicants’ “symbolic link.” This is clearly erroneous. As described in paragraph 0133 of Joshi:

[0133] . . . In steps 634 and 636, authorization actions are set up. Authorization actions personalize the end user's interaction with the Web Server. In step 634, header variables are provided for authorization success events and authorization failure events. This feature allows for the passing of header variables about the end user (or other information) to other web-enabled resources. Web-enabled applications can personalize the end user's interaction with the Web Server using these header variables. As a simple example, the actions could supply each application with the user's name. An application could then greet the user with the message "hello <user's name >" whenever the user logs on. Header variables are variables that are part of an HTTP request.

The foregoing passage makes it clear that the primary purpose of Joshi's "header variables" is to pass data to web-enabled resources.

In contrast, as described in Applicants' specification at paragraph 0051:

A symbolic link, also referred to as soft link, is an indirect pointer to a file. It is a file that refers to another file by its pathname. In comparison, a hard link is essentially a label or name assigned to a file. In contrast to hard links, there are no restrictions on where a symbolic link can point, and it can refer to a file on another file system, to a directory, to itself or to a file which does not even exist (e.g. when the target of the symbolic link is removed).

In view of the foregoing, it is apparent that the cited portions of Joshi are devoid of any teaching or suggestion of a "symbolic link" as recited in independent claim 1. As a result, Joshi fails to anticipate claim 1 for failure to teach every element thereof. Claims 16 and 26 include limitations similar to those of claim 1 and are therefore also not anticipated by Joshi for at least the same reasons as claim 1. Claims 2-10, 12, 13, 15, 17-23, 25, and 27-34 depend from and further limit claims 1, 16, and 26 and are therefore also not anticipated by Joshi for at least that reason.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 11, 14, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Joshi in view of Official Notice. In response, Applicants submit that, because claims 11, 14, and 24 depend from and further limit claims 1 and 16, the claims are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons set forth above with reference to claims 1 and 16. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusions

For at least the reasons set forth in detail above, all of the pending claims are now deemed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the pending rejections and issue a formal notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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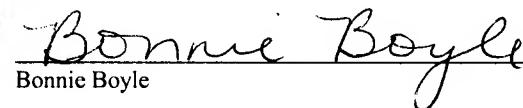
Dated: March 29, 2007

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D-1477348_2.DOC

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